

Program Evaluation Survey

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THIS PROGRAM

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| 1. County | Orange |
| 2. Program Name | Opportunities Program |
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THE PROGRAM

9. Briefly describe interventions that will be used in this program.

Program Interventions: Expedite Initial Case Assignment/Risk assessment process. Provide multi-disciplinary input to program assignment decision. Initiate intensive (wrap-around) intervention and accountability services immediately upon program assignment. Provide ongoing intensive Probation supervision and a comprehensive array of multi-agency early intervention services for high risk program youth, operating 8 hrs/day, 5 days/week, some evenings and weekends, at Orange County's second Youth & Family Resource Center. Increase the options for older, first-time wards to satisfy their accountability requirements. Provision of job preparation, training and placement services; and Emancipation skills training. Enhanced substance abuse intervention programming and new recreation and paid "service" opportunities.

10. Briefly describe, in general terms, the expected beneficial effects of the program (especially the benefits as they relate to what you are going to measure; e.g., if the primary dependent variable is "grade point average," then the goal would be to improve the grade point average.

Expected benefits/goals of the program are: Reduced time from wardship declaration to implementation of program services. Improvement on the "8%" risk factors identified during the initial case assessment process. Fewer new law violations and institutional commitments during program and over a 6-month follow-up period. More youth completing their accountability requirements during program and/or through Wardship termination. More program youths gainfully employed during program period.

11. Name and briefly describe the type of research design that you intend to use to determine whether or not this program produces the desired outcomes.

Experimental Design with Randomization. All first-time wards assessed as meeting the Opportunities program criteria will be randomly assigned to either the program or to the control group. NOTE: The quasi-experimental design evaluation described for Programs 1 and 2 will be an additional (secondary) evaluation approach.

12. Briefly describe the process evaluation research that you intend to conduct.

Process evaluation measures will include: The Length of time between the date of 602 WIC Wardship declaration and the date of: 1) Assignment to Field Supervision officer; 2) Initial Risk Assessment (completion); and, 3) Wardship termination (or, transfer to Admin/Relief of Supervision caseload). No./type of probation supervision contacts. Number and type of community resource referrals. Intervention service levels (based on provider input). Length of time between wardship declaration and initiation of program services.

COMPARISON GROUP

13. Will there be a comparison group?

Yes

14. If you answered 'no' to #13, how will the effectiveness of the program be evaluated?

N/A

15. Will the treatment and comparison group subjects be randomly assigned from the same pool of subjects?

Yes

16. If you answered 'no' to #15, what kind of comparison group will you use?

N/A

17. Briefly describe the process for identifying and assigning the comparison group subjects.

Assessment of potential Opportunities youth will be completed by the two North County Region Supervising Probation Officers. Once identified as an Opportunities candidate, the youth will be randomly assigned to either the program or comparison group.

18. List the criteria for participation that must be met by the comparison group subjects (e.g., age, probation status, gender). Next to each, list the level of the variable that will be used for subject selection (e.g., age 12 or higher, ward of the probation department, males).

Probation Status - First-time wards in North Orange County; Age - 15.5 years or older at wardship declaration; "8%" Risk Factors - 3-4 risk factors; Initial Risk Classification - High.

19. List any other independent variables that you will be collecting for the comparison group (e.g., risk assessment score, legal history, grade point average, school attendance, drug use).

Impact of changes in case processing time (wardship declaration to caseplan implementation). Offense severity. Measures of intensity and type of services provided. Pre-Post changes in risk classification and on "8%" risk factors.

20. Will the comparison group be matched to the treatment group in terms of any variables?

No

21. If you answered 'yes' to #20, list the matching variables that will be used.

N/A

22. If you answered 'yes' to #20, briefly describe how the comparison group will be matched to the treatment group.

N/A

23. If you answered 'no' to #20, briefly describe why you believe that the treatment and comparison groups will possess the necessary comparability.

Due to random assignment to treatment and comparison groups.

24. How many subjects will participate in the comparison group during the entire course of the program?

75 first-time 602 WIC wards, with complete information for the during-program period and a six-month follow-up period.

TREATMENT GROUP

25. Briefly describe the process for identifying and assigning treatment-group subjects.

Assessment of potential Opportunities youth will be completed by a North County Supervising Probation Officer. Once confirmed as an Opportunities candidate, the youth will be randomly assigned to either the program or comparison group.

26. List the criteria for participation that must be met by the treatment group subjects (e.g., age, probation status, gender). Next to each, list the level of the variable that will be used for subject selection (e.g., age 12 or higher, ward of the probation department, males).

Probation Status - First-time wards in North Orange County; Age - 15.5 years or older at wardship declaration; "8%" Risk Factors - 3-4 risk factors; Initial Risk Classification - High.

27. List any other independent variables that you will be collecting for treatment group (e.g., risk assessment score, legal history, grade point average, school attendance, drug use).

Impact of changes in case processing time (wardship declaration to caseplan implementation). Offense severity. Measures of intensity and type of services provided. Pre-Post changes in risk classification and on "8%" risk factors.

28. How many subjects will participate in the treatment evaluation research samples?

75 first-time 602 WIC wards, with complete information for the during-program period and a six-month follow-up period.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INTERVENTIONS

29. List the interventions that only the treatment group will receive (interventions that are not received by the comparison group). Next to each intervention, state in measurable terms, the goals of the intervention. For example, a goal might be: "to improve reading level of program participants."

Provision of job preparation, training and placement services; and Emancipation skills training. Increase the options for older, first-time wards to satisfy their accountability requirements. Provide ongoing intensive Probation supervision & a comprehensive array of multi-agency early intervention services for high risk program youth at Orange County's second Youth & Family Resource Center. Initiate intensive (wrap-around) intervention and accountability services immediately upon program assignment. Provide multi-disciplinary input to program assignment decision. Expedite Initial Case Assignment/Risk assessment process. Enhanced substance abuse intervention programming and new recreation and paid "service" opportunities.

30. List the interventions that only the comparison group will receive (interventions that are not received by the treatment group).

No unique interventions are planned for the comparison group.

31. List the interventions that both the treatment and comparison groups will receive (i.e., in what ways, in terms of interventions, will the treatment and control subjects be treated in the same).

All subjects will be under formal Probation supervision terms and conditions.